

# Resolution 20-11

## Testimony

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 16, 2020 9:41 AM  
**Subject:** Parks, Community Services and Intergovernmental Affairs Speaker Registration/Testimony

## Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name Blake McElheny  
Phone 808.638.8484  
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Meeting Date 01-21-2020  
Council/PH Committee Parks  
Agenda Item Resolution 20-11  
Your position on the matter Support  
Representing Self  
Organization  
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? Yes

Aloha Council members.

Please support Resolution 20-11.

As a community deeply tied to the ocean and ocean activities, Haleiwa deserves a public canoe halau.

Written  
Testimony

In the last eight fiscal years, the City Council has appropriated more than \$4.2 million for the development of canoe halau throughout the island, including at least \$1 million specifically for the development of a canoe halau at Haleiwa Beach Park Mauka (also called "Haleiwa Regional Park"). To date, the Mayor's Administration has failed to act on these appropriations in Haleiwa.

A canoe halau at Haleiwa Beach Park Mauka would provide a much-needed public facility for outrigger canoe paddlers and the North Shore community.

The City has already conducted a feasibility study for construction of a canoe halau at Haleiwa Beach Park Mauka and this study was able to compile the existing planning and environmental review documents for this property as well as prioritize the planning issues that will need to be addressed (as they have been successfully addressed at other similarly situated public canoe halau around the island).

For decades Haleiwa Beach Park Mauka, owned and controlled by the City's Parks Department, has been used by members of the public for park uses and by various outrigger canoe clubs and individual outrigger canoe paddlers to park vehicles, park and turn around canoe trailers, and stage their canoes and equipment. In addition, the community has been involved with the stewardship of these park lands through the City's adopt-a-park program and the community has demonstrated a willingness to continue assisting the City through volunteer clean-ups and other activities allowed by the City.

The canoe clubs on the North Shore provide valuable activities and services to families and high school students from Kahuku, Waialua, and Wahiawa/Mililani. Also, this site in Haleiwa is the site of many canoe races and regatta that support paddlers island-wide.

We ask that the City Council urge the City Administration to move forward with the development and construction of a canoe halau at Haleiwa Beach Park Mauka in collaboration with the community.

A wide variety of community organizations and entities including Manu O Ke Kai Canoe Club, Haleiwa Outrigger Canoe Club, Malama Loko Ea Foundation, North Shore Community Land Trust, the Sunset Beach Community Association, Patagonia Haleiwa, and the Hui O Hee Nalu have long supported public use of the park and the construction of the canoe halau at this location and stand ready to collaborate with the City on this exciting initiative.

It is long overdue for the Administration to listen to the City Council and the broad group of supporters and residents on this matter.

Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Blake McElheny

Testimony  
Attachment

Accept Terms  
and Agreement

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